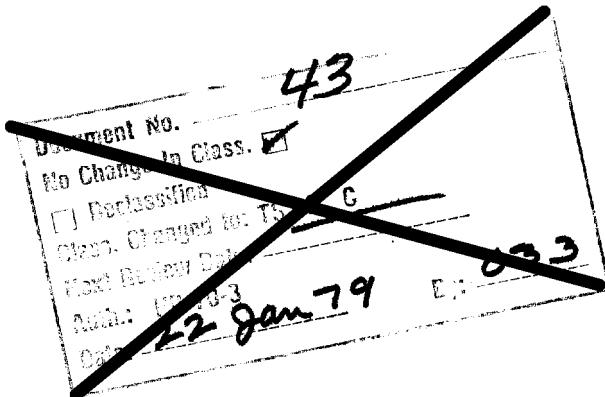


ER-4-56584



SEP 1 1965

The Honorable Walter Williams
Acting Secretary
Department of Commerce
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Williams:

This is in reply to your letter of 11 September 1953 requesting the views of the Central Intelligence Agency in connection with the principle adopted by the Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security that all United States airmen engaged in international flights be subjected to security clearance.

The Central Intelligence Agency fully endorses the principle which has been adopted and believes that it would be in the best interests of the United States to insure that it receives the broadest application possible. However, this Agency is prohibited by statute from exercising internal security functions and it is not believed that the security clearance of persons in the categories mentioned would directly affect our functions.

For your information, we forward routinely to the Federal Bureau of Investigation any information received from overseas sources which relates to U. S. citizens and has a bearing on internal security.

If, in the future, this Agency can be of further assistance, please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

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Allen W. Dulles

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SO [redacted] (18 Sep 53)

Director

Originator:

Rewritten: A-DD/A: LKW: laq (19 Sep 53)

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L. K. WHITE, A-DD/A